disposal of cases. These include amendment of the Civil Procedure Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure, increase in the number of posts of Judges/ Judicial officers, establishment of Special Courts/tribunals and adoption of alternative modes of dispute resolution. Such as, arbitration and conciliation. Lok Adalats have been given a statutory base as supplementary forum for resolution of disputes.

In addition to the above, the Supreme Court of India has taken a number of steps for expeditious disposal of cases, viz., grouping and classification of cases involving similar question of law, setting up of specialised benches, computerization for records, etc. These are also being followed by various High Courts in the country.

In pursuance of the orders passed by the Supreme Court of India, in the Cases Common Cause Vs Union of India, and R. D. Upadhay Vs State of Andhra Pradesh & Others, the Central Government has written to all the State Governments and UT Administrations to take urgent necessary steps to close cases involving minor offences pending for two years and more, and cases of under trials who are languishing in various jails in the country respectively.

Amendments to Bar Council over Civil Procedure Code

2086. SHRI SANATAN BISI:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI V. N. GADGIL:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Bar Council of India has expressed its grave concern over the manner and method in which large scale and far reaching amendments to the Code of Civil Procedure have been rushed/passed through Parliament by Amending Act of 1999;

(b) whether Government has received any suggestions/objections raised by the Bar of the country in this regard;

(c) if so, whether Government actually looked into the matter before passing the said Amendment Act of 1999; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1997 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 14th August, 1997. The Provisions of the said Bill are based on the recommendations made by Justice Malimath Committee, 129th Report of the Law Commission, Committee on Subordinate Legislation (11th Lok Sabha) in its first Report and the Resolution adopted in the Law Ministers' Conference held on 30th June, 1997 and 1st July, 1997 at New Delhi. The said Bill was referred for examination and report to the Department Related Standing Committee on Home Affairs. The Committee invited objections and suggestions from various forums including Bar Council of India, State Bar Councils, District Bar Associations etc. The objections and suggestions received from various quarters were considered by the said Committee. The Committee presented its Report to the Parliament on 17-12-98 which was considered and accepted by the Government. The said Bill as recommended by the said Committee has been passed by both the Houses and become the Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1999.

(d) Does not arise.

Delhi High Court's Directions for Constituting Permanent Lok Adalats

†2087. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi High Court have issued directions to the Centre and Delhi Government for constituting permanent Lok Adalats;

(b) if so, what is Government's action thereto:

(c) whether it is necessary to make alternative arrangements for speedy settlement of pending cases in order to lessen the burden on courts;

(d) whether Lok adalats get quick acceptability and creditability as per the High Court; and

(e) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (e) In pursuance of the orders of the Delhi High Court dated January 15, 1999 and May 14, 1999, the Government has framed a scheme for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.